

Perry Township Board of Trustees

Regular Meeting

February 20, 2018 7:00 pm

Call to Order/ Pledge of Allegiance:

Excused absence:

Additions/Deletions to Agenda:

Trustee Haines indicated that he had one addition from the Stark County Engineer; a speed zone study for Riverside Avenue and indicated that he will put that in motion form; Seconded by Trustee Chessler.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Haines, yes. Mr. Chessler, yes. Mr. DeChiara, yes.

Trustee Haines indicated that this addition will go under the Road Department of the Agenda.

Public Hearings/Invited Guests:

Communications:

Public Speaks on items up for Board Approval: None.

Township Business requiring Board Action: None.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business:

Trustee Haines made a motion to approve bills in the amount of \$188,757.53 for the week ending February 13, 2018 and bills and payroll in the amount of \$395,030.91 for the week ending February 20, 2018 for a combined total of \$583,788.44; Seconded by Trustee Chessler.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Haines, yes. Mr. Chessler, yes. Mr. DeChiara, yes.

Fiscal Officer:

Consider Accepting the 2-6-18 Meeting Minutes

Trustee Haines made a motion that the Board accept the meeting minutes from February 6, 2018; Seconded by Trustee Chessler.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Haines, yes. Mr. Chessler, yes. Mr. DeChiara, yes.

Administration:

Fire Department:

Consider McKinley Eagles Donation

Fire Chief Martin stated that the Fire Department is requesting that the Board of Trustees accept a donation in the amount of \$5,880.00 from the McKinley Eagles Charity Fund to purchase body armor to be used by Fire Department personnel. Trustee Haines inquired how many sets of body armor could be purchased with that amount of money. Chief Martin indicated ten (10) sets of body armor which would put two sets with each of the med units because the med units respond more often than any of the other pieces of apparatus. Chief Martin stated that the goal would then be to supplement the engines with sets of body armor as time goes on.

Trustee Haines made a motion that the Board accept the McKinley Eagles donation in the amount of \$5,880.00 to purchase body armor for the Fire Department personnel; Seconded by Trustee Chessler.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Haines, yes. Mr. Chessler, yes. Mr. DeChiara, yes.

Trustee Chessler inquired of Chief Martin if we could send a note of thanks to the McKinley Eagles and indicated that this is one in a continuing series of donations that they have made for years now. Chief Martin indicated that it went out in today's mail.

Police Department:

Road and Park Department:

Consider Diagnostic Pro-Link Ultra Computer and Software

Trustee Haines stated that this next item on the Agenda is in regard to a road/fire department purchase and asked Road Superintendent Masalko if he would please share this information.

Road Superintendent Masalko stated that the Road Department is requesting the Board to authorize the purchase of the Diagnostic Pro-link Ultra Computer with Software from Techknow Express in the amount of \$5,378.99; purchase to be shared 50/50 with the Fire Department. Mr. Masalko stated that this purchase will help eliminate the cost of outsourcing/diagnoses at area dealerships. Road Superintendent Masalko indicated that with this purchase, Snap-On Techknow-Express will offer a training service to teach our mechanics to properly diagnose our equipment.

Trustee DeChiara inquired if this software would be able to diagnose staff vehicles as well; Road Superintendent Masalko stated that he would have to check to see if there was software that could be loaded into that to adapt for staff vehicles.

Trustee Chessler made a motion that based on the information presented by the Road Superintendent, that the Board authorize the purchase of Diagnostic Pro-Link Ultra Computer and Software as it was quoted by Techknow Express at the cost not to exceed \$5,378.99 and for allocating that cost as equally as possible between the Fire Department and the Road Department; Seconded by Trustee DeChiara.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Haines, yes. Mr. Chessler, yes. Mr. DeChiara, yes.

Law Director:

Zoning:

Problem Properties

Consider Removing 2017 Grass/Weed Nuisance Assessment for 4644 16th St. NW

Zoning Inspector Cugini stated that he had been contacted by Perry Township landowner, Shannon Butterfield, at 4644 16th St. NW regarding an annual assessment in the amount of \$910.00. Mr. Cugini stated that Mr. Butterfield is asking that this assessment be removed from his tax duplicate. Zoning Inspector Cugini relayed that it seems that the annual assessment and this landowner's purchase crossed wires; the home was purchased via sheriff's sale on September 25, 2017. Zoning Inspector Cugini indicated that Perry Township had hired a contractor to mow the grass at this abandoned property on three previous occasions and the Township's assessment did not get placed on the tax bill until November 22, 2017. Mr. Cugini stated that the home would have been conveyed free and clear of all encumbrances because it was sold by a sheriff's sale and added that the only way this assessment can now be removed is through Board action.

More discussion took place among the Board regarding this 4644 16th St. NW property.

Trustee Chessler made a motion that the Board authorize the Law Director to take the steps necessary to file the proper documentation with the Stark County Recorder to withdraw our claim for services rendered in the amount of \$910.00 on Parcel #: 4301409 currently owned by Shannon Butterfield; Seconded by Trustee DeChiara.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Haines, yes. Mr. Chessler, yes. Mr. DeChiara, yes.

Trustee Chessler made a motion that the Board authorize the Law Director to take the steps necessary against Robert J. and or Glenna P. Seaman, the prior owners of the subject property to file a civil action to collect the money the Township expended in the mowing and removal of the nuisance conditions; Seconded by Trustee Haines.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Haines, yes. Mr. Chessler, yes. Mr. DeChiara, yes.

Trustee Haines apologized and stated that he was moving too fast and would like to indicate an addition under the Road Department -- the Stark County Engineer Speed Zone Study for Riverside Avenue.

Trustee Haines indicated that the Board received a letter from Brian Cole, Traffic/Highway Engineer of the Stark County Engineer's Office, in regard to the Speed Zone Study, Riverside Avenue (TR-353). Trustee Haines explained that they did a speed study between Earl Road and the Perry/Jackson Township line; the results of the speed zone warrant the form calculated at 45 mph; it is currently 55 mph, the county is recommending that stretch of road change to 45 mph and they need the Board's resolution for approval on that part to change that speed limit to 45 mph. Trustee Haines verified of Road Superintendent Masalko if that was correct; Road Superintendent Masalko confirmed yes. Trustee Haines indicated that he will put that in a motion form; Seconded by Trustee Chessler.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Haines, yes. Mr. Chessler, yes. Mr. DeChiara, yes.

Consider Approval of Proposed Zoning Fees Increase

Trustee Haines indicated that this matter has been discussed in the past and Zoning Inspector Cugini is bringing it back forward to the Board for consideration of this approval of proposed zoning fees increase.

Zoning Inspector Cugini indicated that he is asking the Board to consider approval of increasing the zoning fees, supporting documentation before the Board, and is also asking that if passed, that the new fee structure take effect immediately. Zoning Inspector Cugini indicated that he has done an apples to apples comparison with neighboring township zoning fees and indicated that this much needed increase will bring our township in line with other townships in our area.

Trustee DeChiara inquired of Zoning Inspector Cugini if it was possible to track the difference in income throughout the year and once the fee increase would take place. Zoning Inspector Cugini confirmed yes.

Trustee Chessler stated that the Board acknowledged receipt of the proposed zoning changes and made a motion that the Board adopt, effective immediately, the proposed changes to the zoning resolution with regard to fees; Seconded by Trustee Haines.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Haines, yes. Mr. Chessler, yes. Mr. DeChiara, yes.

Executive Session(s):

Department Matters Not Requiring Board Action:

Administration: None.

Fire Department: None.

Police Department: None.

Road Department: None.

Parks/Recycling: None.

Zoning: None.

Law Director: None.

Announcements:

Public Speaks-Open Forum:

Timothy Blythe, 2956 Bridgeton St. NW, Massillon 44646 – Mr. Blythe stated that he previously spoke to Zoning Inspector Cugini regarding the increase in zoning fees and gave a brief explanation indicating that he didn't think it made sense in comparing Perry Township's zoning fees to that of neighboring townships since each township's zoning structure is different.

Secondly, Mr. Blythe stated he had some concerns regarding the article in the newspaper about the unbilled funds from the EMS services at the Fire Department and inquired how often the Fire Department was provided with a revenue report of what those (EMS) funds were.

Fiscal Officer Schlegel inquired of Law Director Hall if it was permissible to answer these questions. Mr. Hall stated that if they were general, generic questions and not specific to the investigation then yes. Fiscal Officer Schlegel gave a brief explanation of this procedure. Mr. Blythe gave more of his opinion regarding the unbilled EMS matter and stated that he felt that the fiscal office should recognize that an unbilled amount of money was missing. Mr. Blythe stated that he didn't think there was any response that could be made that would convince him otherwise and indicated that he wanted that to be on the record.

Lee Laubacher, 5006 14th St. SW, Canton – Mr. Laubacher stated that the lights along West Tuscarawas and Lincoln Way, as the Trustees already know, are paid for by ODOT and Ohio Power starts at about Sippo Avenue and goes east; Ohio Edison goes west from there. Mr. Laubacher indicated that he felt that ODOT and Ohio Power needed to be contacted about lights that were out in those areas. Also, Mr. Laubacher gave explanation as to the lights that were out on 13th Street from Pfeiffer Middle School to Genoa.

Mr. Laubacher also stated that before he left as Trustee, he spoke to the former Zoning Inspector and has since spoke to Zoning Inspector Cugini regarding the second house on Saratoga, South of Kraus's Pizza and the bags and bags of trash there, a situation that has been ongoing for 2 ½ to 3 years. Mr. Laubacher stated that he took pictures of this property; Trustee Chessler indicated that per Zoning Inspector Cugini, the Board has been apprised of the situation of this property and indicated that they also had photos. Trustee Haines indicated that Zoning Inspector Cugini relayed that this house was soon to be in the foreclosure process and once in that process, a company would come in and clean the property. Zoning Inspector Cugini confirmed that was correct.

Zoning Inspector Cugini also confirmed Mr. Laubacher's previous complaint in March of 2017 regarding the above-mentioned property and stated that due to the person living at this property being in a wheelchair, having other health issues and being on a limited income, the Zoning Department was trying to assess the entire situation and work with the resident to make some progress in this regard. Mr. Cugini indicated that they would be in contact with the bank to see what could be done to make sure the trash and debris would be cleaned up. Zoning Inspector Cugini indicated that he had a conversation with the grandson and daughter and felt that they could come to a reasonable and fairly quick solution to this matter.

Cary Coates, 3011 Meadowwood, Perry Township – (dialogue not clear and audible); inquiry regarding the former Doctor's Hospital and previous restrictions about being able to become a hospital once again. Trustee Chessler gave a brief explanation regarding previous restrictions on how the former Doctor's Hospital could be used; these restrictions now cease to exist.

Joe Maio, 1036 Norwich – Mr. Maio stated that he had a grave concern and wanted to be second in what Mr. Blythe said about not finding the \$700,000 unbilled EMS service funds over the last two years. Mr. Maio stated that he was here six or eight months ago and heard grousing about not having enough

money to repair some roads; \$700,000 is an unbelievable sum of money and added that he wanted to be put on the record that he was truly concerned about it.

Trustee Haines inquired of Law Director Hall if he would be able to give any comment regarding where the investigation was regarding this matter at this time. Law Director Hall indicated that on behalf of the Board, Fire and Police Department he could specify that every lawful avenue of recovery was being pursued, the investigation was ongoing and another large block of information had been received as of today.

Cary Coates – Mr. Coates relayed to Zoning Inspector Cugini that regarding the trash matter on Saratoga; he has a full size pick-up truck and would be willing to pick up at least one truck load for this resident. Zoning Inspector Cugini stated that it was very generous of Mr. Coates to offer this request and stated that he would like to speak to him after tonight's meeting has ended.

Adjournment:

With nothing further to come before the Board, Trustee Haines made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 pm; Seconded by Trustee DeChiara.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Haines, yes. Mr. Chessler, yes. Mr. DeChiara, yes.

Doug Haines, President

Joe Schlegel, Fiscal Officer